

RAILWAY AND COMMERCIAL GAZETTE

PROCEEDINGS OF PUBLIC COMPANIES.

CLARENCE RAILWAY COMPANY.

A special general meeting of the shareholders in this company was held at the George and Vulture Tavern, Cornhill, on Tuesday, the 15th inst., HENRY BLAISHAW, Esq., in the chair.

The usual preliminary proceedings having been gone through, the SECRETARY read the directors' report, which stated, that, since the last meeting, the committee had vigorously exerted themselves to obtain a reduction of the interest from 5 to 4 per cent. on the debt due to the Exchequer Loan Commissioners, amounting to £44,000. 12s. 10d., and they were happy to inform the proprietors that they had succeeded, and thereby effected a saving of £810. 12s. 2d., reducing the debt to £35,940. 16s. 8d.; part of this latter sum the committee had discharged out of the money raised on the 6 per cent. preference shares, leaving a balance due of £6,540. 16s. 8d. The committee had agreed to liquidate this sum in twenty years, from the 1st of November last, with interest at 4 per cent., by fixed annual payments of £500. each, which they considered a most beneficial arrangement for the company. The claim by the West Durham Company, of 19,740. 7s. had been satisfied, having paid in cash £12,500., leaving a balance of £7,240. 7s., for which the company had taken second class preference shares. The "Clarence Amendment Bill," which the committee considered placed the company on a healthy basis, received the royal assent on the 27th June last; it authorises the company, in discharge of loans, to issue first class preference shares, to pay the parties who advanced the sums paid the loan commissioners (£5,000.), and the Chilton mortgage (14,000.)—together, £9,000.; and also to satisfy the parties who advanced the money to the West Durham Company (Messrs. Williams and Co.), and for the general purposes of the company; also, second class preference shares, to pay off the loans advanced by said proprietors, with interest at 5 per cent. in Dec. 31, 1842—100,000. 17s. 3d. Resolutions had been legally prepared for properly carrying out these several measures, which were submitted for approval.—The report then stated that the traffic on the railway continued to increase, the seven months from November, 1842, to May, 1843, showing an increase over the corresponding seven months of 1841-2, of 20,000. 11s. 4d.; and a considerable saving had been effected in the expenses of carrying on the traffic on the line.—From the statement of accounts, it appeared, that the profit from Nov. 1, 1842, to May 1, 1843, had been £500. 6s. 6d., and that it was the intention of the committee to pay the 4 per cent. dividend on the preference shares on the 1st of August next, for six months to May, 1843, amounting to £800. 18s. 11d., leaving £800. 12s. 2d., with the profits of May and June, to pay the 4 per cent. dividend on the second class preference shares, due on the 1st of July inst., which will be in course of payment after Sept. 1 next; and the remaining balance, with what further profit may arise, will be applicable to pay off the loan commissioners' annuity, payable on the 1st of November in each year.—It further stated that the committee had so far succeeded in their opposition to the bill of the Railway Junction Company, in Parliament, as to compel them to abandon their projected line, and adopt one on a different level, the operation of which is calculated to diminish the objections to the Junction line as tending to injure the traffic on this line.—The railway was in good working, and there was every prospect of the revenue gradually increasing.—The total receipts for the above period had been £13,200. 6s. 6d., and expenses £4,000. 16s. 8d., leaving a profit, as before stated, of £500. 16s. 8d.—The resolutions, which were of considerable length, being drawn up in due legal form, were then adopted unanimously. A vote, expressive of the thanks of the proprietors to Messrs. Blaishaw, Rowley, and Shaw, as trustees for carrying out the arrangement with the Exchequer Loan Commissioners, and to the committee, was also passed unanimously; and it was resolved that the report be adopted, printed, and circulated among the proprietors.—Thanks having been passed to the chairman and committee of management, the meeting, which was more than usually numerous, separated.

DUKE OF CORNWALL'S HARBOUR, LAUNCESTON AND VICTORIA RAILWAY COMPANY.

A half-yearly general meeting of the shareholders was held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, on Thursday last, for the purpose of winding up the affairs of the company.—In the absence of T. RAMSBOTTOM, Esq., M.P., Mr. RICHARDSON was voted to the chair.—Mr. DYSON (the secretary) read the advertisement convening the meeting, also the minutes of the meeting held in January last, which were confirmed.—The CHAIRMAN, after alluding to the cause of Mr. RAMSBOTTOM's absence, stated that the proprietors had but little business to transact, which would take up their time on this occasion. It would merely be the duty of the directors to submit to them the cash accounts of the company, and to state what had been done with respect to Mr. George Ross since the last meeting; for he was most happy to say that they were just on the point of closing the unfortunate and long-pending affairs of the company, and he conscientiously believed, that the untoward circumstances which had so long prevented their arriving at this desirable result, had not been owing to any inattention of the directors, but that, on the contrary, they had done all they possibly could for the interests of the shareholders, who should bear in mind that the claim of Mr. Ross was of their desire opposed, and that the law proceedings which had ensued could not be avoided. The arbitrator (Mr. Wilson), having at length, however, decided that Mr. Ross was indebted to the company in about the sum of £400., the proprietors considered it right, at the last meeting, to authorise the directors to settle, even if less was obtained than the amount of the arbitrator's award; and, in consequence, upon Mr. Ross's assurance that it was impossible for him to pay any such sum as £400., they had, after much consideration, accepted £300., and given him a discharge; this was to be a final settlement of the question, and a mutual release to both parties. Now, with respect to sums owing to other parties—the total liabilities of the company amounted to £200. 17s. 10d., which included even the expenses of the rooms they were then in, and the balance at the bankers was £140. 9s. 11d.—thus leaving £800. 13s. 1d., besides which there were unpaid calls, which would realise about £100. further.

Mr. PARKER said that at the last meeting, it was arranged that no payment should be made without the consent of the proprietors; now, he found that since the meeting in January, they had paid Mr. Dyson (secretary) £100., and Mr. Cole (auditor) £100.—Mr. COLE called Mr. Parker's attention to the circumstance that Mr. RAMSBOTTOM at the last meeting promised him that if he wanted money on account, he should be paid, and the CHAIRMAN explained that at the last meeting it was reported the settlement with Mr. Ross would have come to immediately, whereas it was unnecessarily delayed till several months afterwards, and, in the mean time, the parties mentioned wanted money, so it became necessary to make them the payments named on account.—Captain BOON, as a director, thought it unjust if Mr. Parker failed to fulfil with their conduct when so much had been given by them without any compensation; he assured him he had devoted much time, and had been at considerable expense in the matter, and he wished the meeting would not separate that day until after closing the accounts.—After a good deal of conversation, a resolution was put from the chair—"That the liabilities of the company, amounting to £200. 17s. 10d., be discharged, and that no further expense be incurred," which was carried unanimously, with the exception of Mr. Parker, who objected to any payment being made, until the several bills had been paid before the proprietors.—A shareholder had suggested the policy of giving up the unpaid calls, and thus closing the affairs of the company.—The CHAIRMAN said that he was in no way surprised by the opinions of the directors' conduct entertained by Mr. Parker, knowing how much the situation of a director was sometimes altered, and that, in fact, many public works were kept back through the inattention of directors; yet, in this case, he was sure they had all used their utmost exertions to arrange the affairs of the company to the best interests of the shareholders, though that could not be effected so quickly as had been anticipated. As to the propriety of now giving up the unpaid calls, he could not agree in such cases; for amongst those who had not paid, were the names of parties who could well afford to pay, and if they were not compelled to contribute their share, he, for one, should claim his money back, as he saw no reason for one part of the shareholders paying the debts of the others; he, therefore, trusted that the honourable shareholders would not press the subject.

Mr. OLIVER said that he could assure him that Mr. RAMSBOTTOM had been present, that they might personally have thanked him for his unselfish, as well as unscrupulous, exertions in the cause of the company, and he thought they ought not to apologize without expressing some mark of their regard for his continual solicitude on their behalf; previous representations he was sure Mr. H. would not accept, and he should, therefore, propose that a piece of plate be presented to him with a suitable inscription, and to cause it to value £500.—This motion was seconded by Mr. BROWNE, and carried unanimously.—Mr. JONES then said he thought such a testimony of their esteem ought to be presented in a suitable manner, particularly as the balance to hand, if referred to ship-builders, was so very trifling, and he, therefore, proposed that the piece of plate should be presented at a dinner, to be given to those shareholders who had paid their last call, and those, as well as the rest of the piece of plate, to be distributed out of the balance due to the proprietors.—This motion was duly seconded, and carried.—A vote of thanks was then proposed to Mr. RAMSBOTTOM, for his conduct in the cause, which was seconded by Mr. PARKER, and carried unanimously.

Mr. BROWNE thanked the proprietors for their kind approbation, particularly as it was obliged to Mr. PARKER, who had desired it right to object to some other name which had been named. Before proposing, he wished to assure that proprietors, and the other shareholders, that the difficulties the directors had had to contend with, through the changes put forth by Mr. G. Ross, had been considerable, and were only to be met by firmness, and it was due to Mr. RAMSBOTTOM to say, that his judicious conduct had undoubtedly contributed to the settlement of the cause—indeed, as every occasion where there had been meetings of the company, had Mr. RAMSBOTTOM been at the president, and but for his firmness and judicious action, he firmly believed the

affairs of the company might have been kept open for a long time yet to come, and he felt that the compliment the proprietor had paid Mr. RAMSBOTTOM, whilst it reflected credit upon him, revived that a straightforward line of conduct was duly appreciated by shareholders, even where they, as in the present case, were losers by an unfortunate speculation, and the pleasure he had in stating this opinion of Mr. RAMSBOTTOM's conduct, and of that of the other gentlemen with whom he had been associated, was increased, inasmuch as he was, as the proprietor, so doubt, recollect, one of the four or five parties who joined the direction, merely to assist in winding up the company's affairs; this, at the desire of certain of the proprietors, and at a time when they thought the directors were not proceeding so quickly as they ought, he (Mr. Richardson), therefore, felt it both a pleasure and a duty to say that both Mr. RAMSBOTTOM and Capt. BOON had been indefatigable in their endeavours to effect the end which had at last been so satisfactorily accomplished.—The meeting then separated.

SOUTH-EASTERN AND DOVER RAILWAY.

A special meeting of the shareholders was held at the London Tavern, on Friday, the 21st instant, for the purpose of raising additional capital, necessary for a full development of the advantages of the undertaking, in pursuance of the several Acts recently passed, JOSEPH BAKERHALL, Esq., in the chair, who stated that the meeting had been convened to take into consideration the expediency of making a branch railway to Maidstone, and another to the Bricklayers' Arms, in the Old Kent-road; and, further, to consider the propriety of raising additional capital for other purposes. The amount of money required by the directors was £72,272., which they proposed to raise either by loan notes, or by debentures on the Bricklayers' Arms branch.—A resolution to this effect was then proposed, and, after some discussion as to the terms upon which the money was to be borrowed, passed, with but three dissentient voices.—The next business was the consideration of the construction of the Maidstone branch, which underwent much discussion.—The CHAIRMAN announced, that the proposed line had been surveyed by the engineers (Messrs. Stephenson and Bidder); that its distance from the main line would be about ten miles, the total estimated number of passengers 27,000 per annum, and the total net income £4,910.—The proposition met with opposition from a few of the proprietors, but ultimately, on being put to the vote, was carried by a large majority.—Other requisite resolutions having been agreed to, the CHAIRMAN, in the course of the discussion, stated, that within ten days, steam-boats would be plying between Folkestone and Boulogne, which would enable passengers to accomplish the distance from London to Boulogne in little more than six hours and a half. The system of low fares lately adopted had done much to benefit the railway. He believed that the whole line would be opened to Dover before December next, and that the branch line to Maidstone would be completed within twelve months after obtaining possession of the land.—After passing a unanimous vote of thanks to the chairman, the meeting adjourned.

PARIS AND ROUEN RAILWAY COMPANY.

A meeting of the shareholders in this company took place on the 8th inst., but there not being a sufficient number present to render the proceedings legal, another is arranged for the 8th of August next. The directors' report was, however, read for the information of those present; it first alluded to the establishment in June, 1842, of the company, and the promises held out by the directors, that in three years the greater portion of the works would be completed, and that the capital and advances from the state would be ample sufficient for completion, and a satisfactory interest returned; it then stated that, notwithstanding the delay and difficulties which had occurred, the directors had been enabled, in less than three years—viz., in May last, to announce the opening of the line; the expenditure to the 30th June having been £1,330,000.—To meet the further demands on the company, there was, with the remainder of the loan from the state, the reserve fund and balance at bankers, £11,633., which the directors considered would be ample sufficient.—The report of the engineer, Mr. Lowe, was here read, which merely explained the state of the works, which was highly satisfactory, and the directors' report continued. It stated that the directors should take immediate means to expedite the repayment of the guarantee fund, which ought to have been restored by the Government long ago. The traffic of the line, which commenced on the 8th of May, had given a result, up to the 30th of June, of 65,794 passengers, and a receipt of £8,000. In the latter sum was included some extra charges for luggage, horses, carriages, and parcels. They considered this return as upon the lowest scale, since, properly speaking, they had as yet done nothing but convey passengers, the carriage of parcels having scarcely commenced, and that of merchandise not having been organised. Further, the arrangements entered into with the companies of the "Messageries Royales," and "Messageries Generales" were not yet in operation; and they could not do otherwise than expect no increase of profit from them. Novelty, however much may be said of it, had little influence on the success of a railway of considerable extent. It was not by gratifying temporary curiosity only—the amusement of casual holidays—that such a line should look for its receipts. It involved too many interests, it affected the habits of too many, to come at once into operation. It must be the work of time, and of constant study of various considerations, which could not be prosecuted; but the substantial advantages of this species of conveyance, and the progress which it must command over all other methods of communication, were sure pledges of its progressive improvement. These arose the consideration of the scale of charges, which, though some slight objections had been made to them, were considered, upon the whole, to operate well, and to meet the various circumstances of the line.—It appeared, with respect to income and expenditure, that the latter did not amount to one-half of the returns; and the profit realised allowed the directors to recommend a dividend equal to 5 per cent. upon the whole funds, from the commencement of the undertaking to June 30.—They assured the proprietors that the transport of goods would be immediately commenced, under such terms of rapidity and economy as, while such traffic increased to the company large profits, would draw to the line the greatest part of those goods formerly conveyed on the omnibus roads. Out of the net receipts on the traffic account, they proposed to distribute the sum of 10,000. 19s., which was after the rate of 2 francs 60 cents per share, which would be payable on and after the 10th of August next.

GODERDDAN MINING COMPANY.

The annual general meeting of the shareholders in this company was held at the offices, Mr. SYKES was in the chair.—From the manager's report, it appeared there had been a loss on the year's workings of £600. 10s.—the principal cause of which was the long-continued drought of last summer; it delayed any return from Cwmcarnydd until October, and greatly impeded underground works, especially in the western part of the mine, while an important discovery had been made, either by the deep trials at Cwmcarnydd or at the western girdle at Daren. There were yet various points in both mines of good promise; there was a great extent of old bottoms at Cwmcarnydd yet to be examined, and much high ground, both eastward at Daren and east and west at Cwmcarnydd, which deserves full trial, and as the heavy cost of machinery had been incurred, and which would drain the mine to a great depth, the gradual progress of the works must be maintained. At Cwmcarnydd, from Shattock's shaft, a cross-cut was driven three fathoms to the hole, and extended eastward sixteen fathoms on it. Shattock was found, but not so much as in the fifty above; it had, therefore, been discontinued, until something is met with in the fifty. At the fifty fathoms level, east of Shattock's shaft, a new hole had been met with, of a favourable appearance. The fifty, west from Shattock's, would, in a few months, communicate with Pennant shaft, where a great length of old bottom would be opened. In the thirty-five fathoms level, west of Shattock's shaft, there was a fair productive indicator in silver to any other mine in the neighbourhood, and which would cover about two-thirds of the rest. In Daren mine some very ground had been laid open at the twenty fathoms level, and the thirty and forty fathoms levels had been driven in ground which would pay well for stamping away, although the masses had by no means reached the expectations held by all miners who knew the district, and but little encouragement had been met with; there was hope they might still be rewarded for the fair systems of trial pursued. The following are the costs and returns for twelve months, to the end of December, 1842:

Date.	Amount spent.	Cost.	Sum.	Profit.
January and February.	£10,000. 0s. 0d.	£10,000. 0s. 0d.	£10,000. 0s. 0d.	£0. 0s. 0d.
March and April.	10,000. 0s. 0d.	10,000. 0s. 0d.	10,000. 0s. 0d.	£0. 0s. 0d.
May and June.	10,000. 0s. 0d.	10,000. 0s. 0d.	10,000. 0s. 0d.	£0. 0s. 0d.
July and August.	10,000. 0s. 0d.	10,000. 0s. 0d.	10,000. 0s. 0d.	£0. 0s. 0d.
September and October.	10,000. 0s. 0d.	10,000. 0s. 0d.	10,000. 0s. 0d.	£0. 0s. 0d.
November and December.	10,000. 0s. 0d.	10,000. 0s. 0d.	10,000. 0s. 0d.	£0. 0s. 0d.
Total.	£120,000. 0s. 0d.	£120,000. 0s. 0d.	£120,000. 0s. 0d.	£0. 0s. 0d.

Thanks being voted to the chairman, the meeting separated.

SHROPSHIRE BANKING COMPANY.

The seventh annual meeting of this company was held on Tuesday, the 20th instant, at the Birmingham Arms Hotel, Shifnal, the chair being taken by ALFREDUS BARKER, Esq.—The report of the directors stated, that the bank continues to be in a state of uninterrupted prosperity, and that the accounts for the past year show a clear profit of £100. 10s. 0d. The directors, therefore, recommended the same rate of dividend as is paid July—namely, 7½ per cent. for the half-year ending June 30, which, added to the 5 per cent. for the previous half-year, makes the annual rate of 12½ per cent. for the year, and leaves a balance of £100. 10s. 0d. in the credit of profit and loss. The general head (not in the Government account) has been from month to month, during the past year—it was considerably reduced at the commencement of the year, and now stands at £100. 10s. 0d. in the credit of profit and loss.

the numerous proprietary present, who evidently thought it not unlikely that a reduction of the dividend might take place, from the unprofitable state of commercial affairs, and it was adopted without a dissentient voice.—The retiring directors were then re-elected, and Mr. GRAHAM, of Colnebrook date, appointed in the room of Mr. OLIVER, of Wellington, who retires on account of ill health; after which, votes of thanks to the directors were passed, and the meeting dissolved.—A large party of the shareholders dined together at the Jermingham Arms after the business of the day was concluded, when the chairman remarked that the report had omitted to notice that the income tax would be paid by the bank, in addition to the dividend.

NORWICH UNION LIFE OFFICE.

The annual general meeting of the members of this society was held at the office in St. Swithin's, Norwich, on Friday, the 14th inst., E. T. BROWN, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—The SECRETARY read the advertisement convening the meeting, and the minutes of the last general meeting, also a subsequent resolution of the directors, relative to the increase of the salary of the secretary from £200. to £250. per annum, which had been recommended at a general meeting in 1842. This resolution was proposed by the Rev. J. BAXTER, seconded by Mr. E. WILLIAMS, and carried unanimously.—The accounts were then read; they consisted of the annual cash account from July 1, 1842 to June 30, 1843; the capital account, as it stood invested on the 30th of June, 1843; and the liabilities of the society in the same date.—The CHAIRMAN congratulated the meeting on the prosperous state of the society's affairs; 344 policies had fallen in during the year, 350 new policies had issued, and the capital of the company had increased £4,000.—W. J. U. BROWNE, Esq., then moved, "That the position of the Norwich Union Life Insurance Society, as evidenced by the statement of its progress during the year ending June, 1843, is very satisfactory to this meeting, and such as fully entitles the institution to a continuance of that support which it has hitherto received from the public."—Thanks were then voted in the chairman, and the meeting broke up.

COMMERCIAL BANK OF LONDON.

The third annual general meeting of the proprietors of this bank was held at the office, Montague-street, on Monday, the 17th instant, at which a dividend at the rate of 4 per cent., only, clear of income tax, was declared out of profits. The rate of dividend last year was 5 per cent., so that, less the allowance for income tax, this was a reduction of 1 per cent. The net profit amounted to £13,000., which, after declaration of a dividend of 4 per cent., income tax free, on a paid-up capital stock of £6,000., left a balance of £13,000. It was stated in the report of the directors, with truth, that the unprofitable condition of trade during the last year, accompanied, it might have been added, with settled low prices of commodities generally, which, of course, rendered what should else have been in ordinary a redundant state of the circulation—all contributed to make banking business less profitable than in the regular order of affairs it should be. With the extremely low rates of interest prevailing for a considerable time past, and that abundance of capital abroad which made its profitable employment extremely difficult, if not almost impossible, consistently with safety, it is no small evidence of good management, that the bank should have been enabled to realise a moderate share of profit, and it is creditable to the prudence of the board of directors that they should determine to reduce the dividend below the level of what they had accomplished rather than divide to the last hundred of the amount made, or speculate upon future profits.

Dr. BROWNE, in the course of the discussion, which followed, pressed that, for the future, the report, with the accounts, should be furnished to the shareholders some few days previous to the meeting, with the view of preparing their minds for any question that might be raised during their deliberation on the state of their affairs. He intimated that Parliament, whose attention was turned to the more effectual regulation of joint-stock companies, had it in contemplation to make this one of the essential regulations in the constitution of such companies when private bills are introduced.

ST. KATHARINE'S DOCKS COMPANY.

The half-yearly general meeting of the proprietors in this company was held at the Dock-house, Tower-hill, on Tuesday, the 10th inst., for the purpose of declaring a dividend for the last half year, the election of directors, &c.—Mr. T. TOOKES was in the chair, and a dividend of 3½ per cent. for the half-year was agreed to. The directors were elected unanimously, and a vote of thanks passed to them for their services; the same compliment was paid to Sir John Hall for his invaluable assistance, as Mr. Tookes described them, in extending the business of the docks, which we may observe, are, at present, now crowded with ships from almost all parts of the world.—The routine business of the day having been disposed of, the meeting adjourned.—The directors nominated in the place of those who retire for one year, in rotation, are Messrs. A. CALVIN, T. LUCKIN, R. M. CALVERT, and A. HEDLEY.

BRITISH SMELTING COMPANY, AT ALICANTE, IN SPAIN.
This company, which commenced only sixteen months since, bids fair to realise most extensive profits—for, notwithstanding the disadvantages and preliminary expenses necessarily attendant on a new company, more particularly to a foreign one, in the outfit, carriage, &c., for the officers and others, the British Smelting Company have already realised profits amounting to 6½ per cent. on a very small capital employed. The cost of the buildings and works has been about £10,000., including expenses of levelling, forming sea line, &c., the machinery, which cost about £6,000., comprises a steam-engine of the best construction, washing machine, &c.; there are six reverberatory furnaces for casting, one for reducing blisters to lead, four cupolas, and fuel-tanks for calcining. The quantity of silver delivered to the various contractors up to April last was 27,739 ozs., yielding to the company about £2,000.; and two cargoes of lead had been shipped to England by the Ocean Chief, which vessel was unfortunately lost, but the crew saved; the insurance

GEOLOGICAL AND MINERALOGICAL NOTICES OF SCANDINAVIA—No. 2.

When the gulf of Alten is passed, and you travel through the interior of Finmark, in advancing towards the south, a gentle inclination insensibly presents itself where it is difficult to meet with rocks. Nevertheless, I could, in some places, observe the furrows, and determine their direction; after having passed the rivulet of Garja Joure, about three miles from the coast, and, according to the charts published by M. Von Buch, about 1300 feet above the level of the sea, in a quartz rock, the furrows and ridges are well marked, and directed, from the north 22° west, from the south 22° east; the direction of the beds is here to the north ; 35° west their inclination is very trifling, about 20° to 25°. Further, about five miles from the coast, almost immediately after one has arrived on the heights of the vast plateau which extends over a great portion of Norwegian Lapland or Finmark, I observed again the furrows on the surface of several rocks; here they have obtained a slight deviation in their direction; they make an angle, varying some degrees to the right and left of the meridian, but generally towards the east; the average direction may be to the north 2° or 3° east. These furrows are found on mica slate, the beds of which are very slightly inclined, and directed to the north 35° west. This is the last point in Finmark where I have observed the furrows well defined, and the direction of which can be determined with exactitude; further, I have found, in some places, traces of the flattening and appearance of the furrows, but so imperfect, that it is impossible to say positively they belong to the division. The great plateau of the north of Finmark, which preserves, in almost its whole extent, an elevation of 2300 feet above the level of the sea, appears generally formed of rocks, stratified in beds slightly inclined; they are almost all covered with an argillaceous detritus, mixed with sand and gravel, arising from the destruction of foliar rocks. This deposit extends itself uniformly over the whole surface of the country, though it does not appear to be of any great thickness. A great number of blocks of various natures are here disseminated, which are produced from rocks situated in the vicinity, and some even from those situated directly below this deposit. They are often of very large dimensions; their ordinary thickness is from three to four feet; they are partially, and, in some cases, wholly, buried in the detritus; for the most part they are blocks of quartz, greenstone, and granite—these last are the most numerous. It is difficult to say from what direction they have arrived; too little is yet known of the geographic constitution of Finmark. I imagine they are the result of the effects of the same diluvian force which has hollowed the furrows; they have been torn from rocks situated in their passage, have been transported to different distances, and have been deposited here and there in different places, as the force of violence has lessened. Every year, at the breaking up of the winter, the upper part of these deposits are covered with water, which, remaining some time on the plateau, flowing by little and little towards the lakes, draw with them a quantity of debris, which extends uniformly over the surface of the ground; this, I believe, is the principal cause which has levelled, and tends yet more to level, the surface of this plateau; the rock which forms the ground plot is buried under these deposits, and only shows itself at distances far apart. Arriving at Kautokeino, a village consisting of a church, parsonage, and few cottages, situated 69° north latitude, the plateau is descended by gentle declivities to the second plateau, which is about 1000 feet below the first—that is to say, about 1200 or 1300 feet above the level of the sea. A deposit of detritus exactly similar stretches over the whole surface. It is not necessary to add, that in the valleys where there are streams, and the basins of rivers, that this deposit only exists with the same character; it has been hollowed by the water, and covered again, partly by the sandy detritus, which the rivers draw from the mountains where they take their source. Kautokeino is situated in a large basin, where the river Alten opens itself, a bed traversing an accumulation of very thick granitic sand. At Karasvanda the Muonio also runs over a deposit of sand, but which appears to be less extensive. In descending this river to that of Tornes, the two rivers pass through marshy plains, and mountains of some hundred feet in height. I was on the greatest part of these mountains, without being able to discover any well defined traces of the diluvian action; they are generally formed of a coarse-grained granite, which divides itself after certain forms—and, consequently, is broken into large fragments. If the furrows are not found at present, it is not to be concluded that they have never existed. In Finland, on the surface of this species of granite, which forms the mountain of Tornes, the furrows have been often altered, and, in some cases, entirely disappeared. At the mountain of Ava Naxa, one of those chosen by the French academicians to measure the size of a degree of the meridian, and on some other mountains, at certain points the rock was smooth, showing indications of flattening, but always imperfect. The city of Tornes is situated in a large and low plain of sand, almost extending to the sea; there are some blocks disseminated over this plain; but they are all fragments of this granite, which lay not far from each other. In this part of Finmark, the diluvium has left traces, which, without being very numerous, are sufficiently defined, especially in the southern part, to attest its passage over this tract.

[To be continued in next week's Journal.]

ARTESIAN WELLS.

The greatest of these interesting wells yet existing in Aberdeen has just been successfully completed, at the tape-works of Messrs. Miles, Low, and Co., Woolmanhill. The bore is 6 inches in diameter, and 200 feet 9 inches deep. It required nearly eleven months' working to complete the excavation. In its progress, the following strata were cut through in succession:—

72.
6 0 Vegetable mould.
19 0 Clay or loamy clay.
20 0 Sand and shingle, containing rolled stones of various sizes.
6 0 Light blue clay.
10 0 Rotten sand and shingle.
113 0 Old red sandstone—composed of red clay, quartz, mica, and rolled stones.
74 0 Alternating strata—of compact fine-grained red sandstone, varying in thickness from 1 to 7 feet; and clay, varying from 8 inches to 12 feet.
8 0 Mica-schist formation—the first two feet of which were chiefly a hard impure quartzite, containing iron, manganese, and carbonaceous matter.

The temperature of the water at the bottom of the well, when completed, was found to be within a fraction of 60° Fahrenheit; and the average temperature of the locality, deduced from twenty-three years' observation, by the late George Isaacs, F.R.S., is 47° F.; hence, nearly 2° of increase appear as the effects of central heat. The supply of water obtained is sufficient in quantity, and sufficient to qualify for all the purposes of the works. But an opportunity of investigating the geology of the locality can but rarely occur; and, in the present instance, the proprietors and managers afforded every facility to scientific inquiries for conducting examinations. To make the bearings of the case clear and simple, the following is quoted from Mr. Miles's celebrated work on the old red sandstone (p. 33). In reference to this part of Scotland, he says:—"The interior is composed of what, after the older geologists, I shall term primary rocks—gneissites, gneisses, gneissites, and mica-schistites; and this central nucleus, as it now exists, seems set in a sandstone frame. The southern bar of the frame is stiffened; it stretches along the Grampians, from Shetland to the Firth of Clyde. The northern bar is also well stiffened; it rises, undulating, along the whole northern coast of Cumbria, and thence, in these several mountainous, the northern coast of Scotland, leaving tracings of no very considerable extent between. On the east, there are considerable gaps, as along the shores of Aberdeenshire; the main stem, however, appears at Granite, in the vicinity of Banchory."

The learned author will be glad to learn that, though the examinations of authors here mentioned like "Isaac," along the shores of Aberdeenshire, put the prophecies are not lost, as will be seen from the section above described; they are here repeating *in situ*, under the accumulated debris of successive ages, clearly the boulders, clay and sedimentary deposits of the Dov and Dune, during a period when they occupied their waters in the basin in which Aberdeen now stands. The primary rocks—the settings—our granite of mica-schist, stand not in solid salient a mile or two seawards from the sea coast. Within this year or two, the old red has been discovered at Banchory, Urie, Crathes, Braemar, Glengorms, and various other localities to the northward; hence, it may reasonably be inferred that our fragment of the frame encloses the primary rocks under our city and along the coast for a considerable distance between the Dov and Banchory—Aberdeen.

Miles's Patent Tallow-Meter.—A motion was made on Thursday last, in the Vice-Chancellor's Court, in the case "Miles v. Foster," to dismiss an injunction which had been obtained on behalf of the plaintiff, Mr. Miles, M.P., restraining the defendant from making or manufacturing a certain article, viz., for the protection of ships' bottoms, which it was considered was an infringement of the plaintiff's patent. The arguments were protracted with peculiar, while, at their conclusion, his Honour decided that the injunction should continue one week longer, in which time the plaintiff must commence effectively, and prosecute with diligence, an action against the defendant for the alleged infringement of patent. There are now interesting points in connection with this case, which we shall refer to as soon as possible.

PRESENT STATE OF THE IRON TRADE.

With the view of placing before our readers the most accurate information respecting the actual state of the iron trade, we are endeavouring to procure returns from each district, and shall present them, as received, until the whole shall afford a complete list of furnaces, in and out of blast, with amount of weekly make, for the six months ending June 30, 1843:—

NORTH WALES.

Name of Work.	Furn.	In blast.	Out of blast.	make.	Weekly.
Rhuddlan	British Iron Company	3	—	—	—
Ponky	Kirk and Co.	—	—	—	—
Plas Isca	Roberts, Rogers, & Co.	1	—	60	60
Brymbo	Joint Stock	1	—	55	55
Frood	Thompson	2	—	80	80
Cwm Tafarn and Llawnwood	E. Gailey	2	—	80	80
Post	—	—	—	—	—
Llwynyddau	—	—	—	—	—
Plas Kyffin and Cefn	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	—	8	14	200	200

SOUTH WALES.

Name of Work.	Furn.	In blast.	Out of blast.	make.	Weekly.
C. H. Leigh	—	3	—	110	110
Pontypridd	Joint Stock	2	—	120	120
Glyncorrwg	Ditto	—	—	184	184
Abercynon	British Iron Company	—	4	80	80
Varteg	Kearick and Co.	—	3	80	80
Blaenau	Joint Stock	4	—	240	240
Clydach	Powell and Co.	—	1	120	120
Nantyglo	J. and C. Bailey	4	—	270	270
Galebrook Dale	Brewer and Co.	4	—	260	260
Blaenavon	Joint Stock	2	—	132	132
Cwm Culwyd	J. and C. Bailey	3	—	150	150
Blaenavon	Hartfords and Co.	3	—	150	150
Silbury	Hartfords and Co.	4	—	180	180
Totals	—	42	27	2009	2009

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE.

Name of Work.	Furn.	In blast.	Out of blast.	make.	Weekly.
Chilington	Jones, Barker, & Foster	3	—	270	270
Worlebury	W. Ward	—	—	180	180
Priestfield	Parkfield Iron Company	3	—	240	240
Wolverhampton	Dixons, Neave, and Hill	3	—	180	180
Milk Fields	William Riley	—	—	100	100
Cosley	George Jones	—	—	100	100
Hilston	W. Baldwin	—	—	70	70
Bilston Brook	J. Parsons	—	—	80	80
Bradley	J. Wilkinson and Son	—	—	100	100
Wednesbury Oak	P. Williams and Sons	—	—	100	100
Willingsworth	Sir H. St. Paul	—	—	100	100
Golsgrove	J. Bagwell and Son	—	—	100	100
Cappow Field	Ditto	—	—	100	100
Ettingall	J. Black and Son	—	—	100	100
Moore Croft	E. H. & J. Adderbrooke	—	—	100	100
Horstler	Horsley Iron Company	—	—	100	100
Eagle Furnaces	Eagle Furnace Company	—	—	100	100
Toll End	Toll End Iron Company	—	—	100	100
Conygree	E. of Dudley's trustees	—	—	100	100
Walsall	Lloyd and Co.	—	—	100	100
Bentley	Earl of Lichfield	—	—	100	100
Tipton	E. Creswell and Sons	—	—	100	100
Union	P. Williams and Co.	—	—	100	100
Bilston	Woolley and Co.	—	—	100	100
Priory Field	H. P. Whitehouse	—	—	100	100
Cosley	Pemberton and Co.	—	—	100	100
Birchills	E. Tyler	—	—	100	100
Redgate	—	—	—	100	100
Dudley Port	—	—	—	100	100
Oldbury	—	—	—	100	100
Dudley Port	—	—	—	100	100
Watkins	—	—	—	100	100
Crockay	—	—	—	100	100
Northerton	Blackwell, Jones, & Co.	—	—	100	100
Dudley Wood	Sir M. St. Paul	—	—	100	100
Northerton	Broth and Barrs	—	—	100	100
Reffley	Evers and Martin	—	—	100	100
Shuttle	B. Gibbons	—	—	100	100
Shut End	William Iron	—	—	100	100
Brettell Lane	W. and J. Wooley	—	—	100	100
Lake	W. and J. Wooley	—	—	100	100
Cobbs' Hall	Matthews and Dudley	—	—	100	100
Shut End	James Foster	—	—	100	100
Oak Farm	Oak Farm Iron Company	—	—	100	100
Russell's Hall	Blackwell, Jones, & Co.	—	—	100	100
Kettles	Ditto	—	—	100	100
Hulley	J. Hadde	—	—	100	100
Bilston	George Jones	—	—	100	100
Wombridge	Braun and Co.	—	—	100	100
Burton	E. Adderbrooke	—	—	100	100
Derbastone	Biles and Hicks	—	—	100	100
Derbastone Green	Vastard	—	—	100	100
Level	Totals	72	60	2009	2009

SCOTLAND.

Name of Work.	Furn.	In blast.	Out of blast.	make.	Weekly.
Cliffe	C. Dunlop and Co.	4	—	200	200
Dundysvan	J. Wilson	9	—</		

